

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A content-providing system comprising a terminal for utilizing contents and a server connected to said terminal through a network and used for managing said contents comprising:

said terminal including

storage means for storing said contents in advance;

request means for requesting utilization of predetermined contents by transmitting content IDs identifying said predetermined contents among a plurality of said contents stored in said storage means and by transmitting an electronic ~~point count~~ points purchase request, the electronic points for purchasing said predetermined contents, to said server;

reception means for receiving both a table associating said content IDs with an electronic point amount ~~said electronic point count~~, and a utilization condition each transmitted by said server in response to said request by said request means, said utilization condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on the points purchase request;

utilization-condition storage means for storing said utilization condition and said table, which are received by said reception means, said utilization-condition storage means being further a means for updating said table on the basis of a content ID and an update of said electronic point amount, which are received from said server; and

utilization execution means for executing utilization of said predetermined contents on the basis of said utilization condition and said table, which have been stored in said utilization-condition storage means;

said server including

utilization-condition transmission means for transmitting said table associating said content IDs with said electronic point ~~count~~ amount and for transmitting said utilization condition, to said terminal;

sales-history information storage means for storing sales-history information of said predetermined contents pertaining to ~~said a~~ a range as information including said content IDs identifying said predetermined contents, utilization of which is requested by said request means employed in said terminal;

collection means for collecting sales records of contents utilized by said terminal on the basis of said sales-history information stored in said sales-history information storage means; and

processing execution means for carrying out processing based on said sales records, wherein said utilization-condition transmission means, employed in said server, is further a means for transmitting ~~[[a]] the content ID, said electronic point count of which is to be updated,~~ and ~~[[an]] the update of said electronic point ~~count~~ amount and~~

~~said utilization-condition storage means, employed in said terminal, is further a means for updating said table on the basis of said content ID and said update of said electronic point amount count, which are received from said server.~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): An information-processing apparatus connected to a terminal for using a content through a network, said information-processing apparatus comprising:

transmission means for transmitting a table associating content IDs of contents with an electronic point ~~count~~ amount and for transmitting a utilization condition, to said terminal, said utilization condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on a points purchase request;

sales-history information storage means for storing sales-history information of ~~said~~ predetermined contents pertaining to ~~said~~ a range received from said terminal as information including said content IDs identifying said predetermined contents;

collection means for collecting sales records of contents utilized by said terminal on the basis of said sales-history information stored in said sales-history information storage means; and

processing execution means for carrying out processing based on said sales records, wherein said transmission means is further a means for transmitting a content ID, ~~said~~ ~~electronic point count of which is to be updated,~~ and an update of said electronic point ~~count~~ amount to said terminal.

Claim 3 (Original): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 2 wherein said sales-history information stored in said sales-history information storage means further includes an apparatus ID used for identifying said terminal.

Claim 4 (Original): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 2, said information-processing apparatus further comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring execution-history information representing a history of executions of utilizations of said contents stored in said terminal; and

utilization-history information storage means for storing utilization-history information including said content ID received from said server and said execution-history information acquired by said acquisition means,

wherein said collection means further collects utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 5 (Original): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 4, said information-processing apparatus further comprising favorite extraction means for extracting information of contents each serving as a favorite with a user using said terminal on the basis of said utilization-history information stored in said utilization-history information storage means and information on favorites stored in said terminal, wherein said transmission means transmits information extracted by said favorite extraction means as said information of contents each serving as a favorite with said user using said terminal to said terminal.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): An information-processing method executed by an information-processing apparatus having a processor and connected to a terminal for using a content through a network, said information-processing method comprising:

a first transmission step of transmitting, using the information-processing apparatus, a table associating content IDs of contents with an electronic point ~~count~~ amount and transmitting a utilization condition, to said terminal, said utilization condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on a points purchase request;

a sales-history information storage control step of controlling, using the information-processing apparatus, an operation to store sales-history information of ~~said~~ predetermined contents pertaining to ~~said~~ a range received from said terminal as information including said content IDs identifying said predetermined contents;

a collection step of collecting sales records of contents utilized by said terminal on the basis of said sales-history information stored in said operation controlled by processing carried out at said sales-history information storage control step;

a processing execution step of carrying out processing based on said sales records;  
and

a second transmission step of transmitting, using the information-processing apparatus, a content ID, ~~said electronic point count of which is to be updated,~~ and an update of said electronic point count to said terminal in a process to update said electronic point amount count of said table.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a program ~~to be executed by a computer as a program~~ for controlling an information-processing apparatus, which is connected to a terminal for using a content through a network, that when executed by a computer causes the computer to carry out processing comprising:

a first transmission step of transmitting a table associating content IDs of contents with an electronic point ~~count~~ amount and transmitting a utilization condition, to said terminal, said utilization condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on a points purchase request;

a sales-history information storage control step of controlling an operation to store sales-history information of ~~said~~ predetermined contents pertaining to ~~said~~ a range received from said terminal as information including said content IDs identifying said predetermined contents;

a collection step of collecting sales records of contents utilized by said terminal on the basis of said sales-history information stored in said operation controlled by processing carried out at said sales-history information storage control step;

a processing execution step of carrying out processing based on said sales records;  
and

a second transmission step of transmitting a content ID, ~~said electronic point count of which is to be updated,~~ and an update of said electronic point count to said terminal in a process to update said electronic point amount ~~count~~ of said table.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): An information-processing apparatus connected by a network to a server for providing contents, said information-processing apparatus comprising:

storage means for storing said contents in advance;

request means for requesting utilization of predetermined contents by transmitting content IDs identifying said predetermined contents among a plurality of said contents stored in said storage means and by transmitting, to said server, an electronic point count points purchase request, the electronic points for purchasing said predetermined contents ~~to said server;~~

reception means for receiving both a table associating said content IDs with an electronic point amount ~~said electronic point count~~ and a utilization condition each transmitted by said server in said request by said request means, said utilization condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on the points purchase request;

utilization-condition storage means for storing said utilization condition and said table, which are received by said reception means; and

utilization execution means for executing utilization of said predetermined contents on the basis of said utilization condition and said table, which are stored in said utilization-condition storage means,

wherein, when a content ID, ~~said electronic point count of which is to be updated,~~ and an update of said electronic point ~~count~~ amount are received from said server, said utilization-condition storage means updates said table on the basis of said received content ID and said received update of said electronic point amount ~~count~~.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 8, said information-processing apparatus further comprising ID storage means for storing an apparatus ID used for identifying said information-processing apparatus, wherein said request means transmits said apparatus ID from said ID storage means along with said content IDs of said predetermined contents pertaining to ~~said a~~ range to be purchased and said electronic point ~~count~~ amount for purchasing said predetermined contents in order to make said request for utilization of said predetermined contents pertaining to said range.

Claim 10 (Original): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 8, said information-processing apparatus further comprising:

execution-history information storage means for storing execution-history information representing a history of executions of utilizations of said predetermined contents; and

execution-history information transmission means for transmitting said execution-history information stored in said execution-history information storage means to said server.

Claim 11 (Original): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 8 wherein:

said reception means further receives information on favorite contents of a user using said information-processing apparatus from said server as information based on said execution-history information; and

said utilization execution means executes utilizations of said predetermined contents on the basis of said information on favorite contents.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): An information-processing method executed by an information-processing apparatus having a processor and connected by a network to a server for providing contents, said information-processing method comprising:

a request step of requesting, using the information-processing apparatus, utilization of predetermined contents by transmitting content IDs identifying said predetermined contents among a plurality of said contents stored in advance and by transmitting an electronic ~~point count~~ points purchase request, the electronic points for purchasing said predetermined contents, to said server;

a reception step of receiving, using the information-processing apparatus, both a table associating said content IDs with ~~said~~ an electronic point ~~count~~ amount and a utilization condition each transmitted by said server in response to said request in processing carried out at said request step, said utilization condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on the points purchase request;

a utilization-condition storage control step of controlling, using the information-processing apparatus, an operation to store said utilization condition and said table, which are received in processing carried out at said reception step, into a utilization-condition storage unit;

a utilization execution step of executing, using the information-processing apparatus, utilization of said predetermined contents on the basis of said utilization condition and said table, which are stored in said operation controlled by processing carried out at said utilization-condition storage control step; and

an updating step of updating, using the information-processing apparatus, said table stored in said utilization-condition storage unit on the basis of a content ID, ~~said electronic point count of which is to be updated~~, and an update of said electronic point amount ~~count~~ when said content ID and said update are received from said server.



Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a program ~~to be executed by a computer as a program~~ for controlling an information-processing apparatus, which is connected to a server for providing contents through a network, that when executed by a computer causes the computer to carry out processing comprising:

a request step of requesting utilization of predetermined contents by transmitting content IDs identifying said predetermined contents among a plurality of said contents stored in advance and by transmitting, to said server, an electronic ~~point count~~ points purchase request, the electronic points for purchasing said predetermined contents ~~to said server;~~

a reception step of receiving both a table associating said content IDs with ~~said an~~ an electronic point ~~count~~ amount and a utilization condition each transmitted by said server in response to said request in processing carried out at said request step, said utilization condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on the points purchase request;

a utilization-condition storage control step of controlling an operation to store said utilization condition and said table, which are received in processing carried out at said reception step, into a utilization-condition storage unit;

a utilization execution step of executing utilization of said predetermined contents on the basis of said utilization condition and said table, which are stored in said operation controlled by processing carried out at said utilization-condition storage control step; and

an updating step of updating said table stored in said utilization-condition storage unit on the basis of a content ID, ~~said electronic point count of which is to be updated,~~ and an update of said electronic point ~~count~~ amount when said content ID and said update are received from said server.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): A content-providing system comprising a terminal for utilizing contents and a server connected to said terminal through a network and used for managing said contents wherein:

said terminal includes:

storage means for storing said contents in advance;

ID storage means for storing an apparatus ID of said terminal or a program ID of an application program used for utilizing a content;

request means for making a request for utilization of predetermined contents specified among said contents stored in said storage means by transmission of content IDs identifying said predetermined contents and said apparatus ID or said program ID to said server;

reception means for receiving a utilization condition transmitted by said server at said request made by said request means; and

utilization execution means for executing utilization of said predetermined contents on the basis of said utilization condition by execution of said application program, whereas

said server includes:

utilization-condition transmission means for transmitting a utilization condition for utilizing said predetermined contents, utilization of which is requested by said request means employed in said terminal, to said terminal;

utilization-history information storage means for storing information including said content IDs and said apparatus ID or said program ID, which are received from said request means employed in said terminal, as utilization-history information of said predetermined contents;

collection means for collecting utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal or utilized by execution of said application program on the basis of said utilization-history information stored in said utilization-history information storage means; and

processing execution means for carrying out processing based on said utilization records.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 14 wherein said storage means of said terminal can be mounted and demounted on and from said terminal.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 14 wherein: said terminal further comprises execution-history information storage means for storing execution-history information representing a history of executions of said application program used for utilizing said predetermined contents;

said server further comprises acquisition means for acquiring said execution-history information stored in said execution-history storage means employed in said terminal;

said utilization-history information storage means employed in said server is used for storing said utilization-history information including said content IDs and said apparatus ID or said program ID, which are received from said request means employed in said terminal, as well as said execution-history information acquired by said acquisition means; and

said collection means employed in said server collects utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal or utilized by execution of said application program and execution records of said application program on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 14 wherein:

said server further comprises acquisition means for acquiring information other than said content IDs as information on said predetermined contents, utilization of which is requested by said request means employed in said terminal, from said terminal;

said utilization-history information storage means employed in said server is used for storing said content IDs and said apparatus ID or said program ID, which are received from said request means employed in said terminal, as well as said information acquired by said acquisition means as said information other than said content IDs; and

said collection means employed in said server collects utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal or utilized by execution of said application program on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 17 wherein said information other than said content IDs is a selling price of said contents or a sale date of said contents.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 14 wherein:  
said terminal further comprises moving/copying means for moving or copying said contents stored in said storage means or said utilization condition received by said reception means to another terminal;

said server further comprises acquisition means for acquiring an apparatus ID of said other terminal, to which said contents or said utilization condition is moved or copied by said moving/copying means employed in said terminal, from said terminal;

said utilization-history information storage means employed in said server is used for storing said utilization-history information including said content IDs received from said request means employed in said terminal and said apparatus ID received from said request

means employed in said terminal or said apparatus ID acquired by said acquisition means;  
and

said collection means employed in said server collects utilization records of contents  
utilized by said terminal on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 19 wherein:

said acquisition means employed in said server further acquires time information, at  
which said moving/copying means employed in said terminal moves or copies said contents  
or said utilization condition to said other terminal, from said terminal;

said utilization-history information storage means employed in said server is used for  
storing said utilization-history information including said content IDs received from said  
request means employed in said terminal, said apparatus ID received from said request means  
employed in said terminal or said apparatus ID acquired by said acquisition means and said  
time information acquired by said acquisition means; and

said collection means employed in said server collects utilization records of contents  
utilized by said terminal on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 21 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 19 wherein:

said acquisition means employed in said server further acquires an apparatus ID of  
another terminal, which has moved contents or a utilization condition to said terminal, from  
said other terminal;

said utilization-history information storage means employed in said server is used for  
storing said utilization-history information including said content IDs received from said  
request means employed in said terminal and said apparatus ID received from said request

means employed in said terminal or said apparatus ID acquired by said acquisition means;  
and

said collection means employed in said server collects utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 22 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 21 wherein:

said acquisition means employed in said server further acquires time information, at which said contents or said utilization condition were moved or copied to said terminal by said other terminal, from said other terminal;

said utilization-history information storage means employed in said server is used for storing said utilization-history information including said content IDs received from said request means employed in said terminal, said apparatus ID received from said request means employed in said terminal or said apparatus ID acquired by said acquisition means and said time information acquired by said acquisition means; and

said collection means employed in said server collects utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 14 wherein:

said server further comprises detection means for detecting illegal utilization of said contents in said terminal; and

said utilization-condition transmission means limits transmission of said utilization condition to said terminal, which has carried out said detected illegal utilization.

Claim 24 (Withdrawn): An information-processing apparatus connected to a terminal for utilizing contents through a network, said information-processing apparatus comprising:

utilization-condition transmission means for transmitting a utilization condition for utilizing particular contents selected among said contents as predetermined contents, utilization of which is requested by said terminal, to said terminal;

utilization-history information storage means for storing utilization-history information received from said terminal as information including content IDs of said predetermined contents and an apparatus ID of said terminal or a program ID of an application program used for utilizing said predetermined contents;

collection means for collecting utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal or utilized by execution of said application program on the basis of said utilization-history information stored in said utilization-history information storage means; and

processing execution means for carrying out processing based on said utilization records.

Claim 25 (Withdrawn): An information-processing method adopted by an information-processing apparatus connected to a terminal for utilizing contents through a network, said information-processing method comprising:

a utilization-condition transmission step of transmitting a utilization condition for utilizing particular contents selected among said contents as predetermined contents, utilization of which is requested by said terminal, to said terminal;

a utilization-history information storage step of storing utilization-history information received from said terminal as information including content IDs of said predetermined contents and an apparatus ID of said terminal or a program ID of an application program used for utilizing said predetermined contents;

a collection step of collecting utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal or utilized by execution of said application program on the basis of said utilization-history

information stored in processing carried out at said utilization-history information storage step; and

a processing execution step of carrying out processing based on said utilization records.

Claim 26 (Withdrawn): A program to be executed by a computer as a program for controlling an information-processing apparatus, which is connected to a terminal for utilizing contents through a network, to carry out processing comprising:

a utilization-condition transmission control step of controlling an operation to transmit a utilization condition for utilizing particular contents selected among said contents as predetermined contents, utilization of which is requested by said terminal, to said terminal;

a utilization-history information storage control step of controlling an operation to store utilization-history information received from said terminal as information including content IDs of said predetermined contents and an apparatus ID of said terminal or a program ID of an application program used for utilizing said predetermined contents;

a collection control step of controlling an operation to collect utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal or utilized by execution of said application program on the basis of said utilization-history information stored in processing carried out at said utilization-history information storage control step; and

a processing execution control step of controlling an operation to carry out processing based on said utilization records.